

HALL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING FEBRUARY 5, 2008

The Hall County Board of Supervisors met February 5, 2008, by published call in the County Board meeting room, 121 South Pine, Grand Island.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bud Jeffries.

INVOCATION - Invocation was given by Robert Rye.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

ROLL CALL - Present on roll call were, Scott Arnold, Jim Eriksen, Robert Humiston, Bud Jeffries, Pamela Lancaster, Robert Rye and Daniel Wagoner. Also present was Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING LAW - Chairman Jeffries read the notice of open meeting law.

CONSENT AGENDA – Rye made a motion and Lancaster seconded to approve the following by consent agenda:

1. 5a Set the bid opening for 4 box culvert for February 19, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.
2. 5b set the bid opening for asphalt overlay for Shady Bend Road for February 19, 2008 at 10:45 a.m.
3. 6 Approved Resolution# 08-002 for Exchange of Collateral for Tier One Bank in the amount of \$550,000.00 for the Hall County Treasurer
4. 7a Approved Resolution#08-004 for Withdrawal of collateral for Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$6,100,000.00 for the Hall County Clerk
5. 7b Approved Resolution #08-005 for Withdrawal of Collateral for Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$360,000.00 for the Hall County Clerk
6. 7c Approved Resolution #08-006 for Withdrawal of Collateral for Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$1,900,000.00 for the Hall County Clerk
7. 7d Approved Resolution #08-007 for Withdrawal of Collateral for Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$4,400,000.00 for the Hall County Clerk
8. 7e Approved Resolution #08-008 for Withdrawal of Collateral for Wells Fargo Bank in the amount of \$670,000.00 for the Hall County Clerk
9. 9 Placed on file the Hall County Keno audit finding letter for period dated July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007
10. 10 Approved the facilities committee recommendation to rename Safety Center to Courthouse Annex
11. 13 Approved the purchase of AutoCAD software for the building & grounds department
12. 14 Authorized Chair to sign the skid steer lease agreement with Nebraska Machinery
13. 20 Approved the bi weekly pay claims
14. 22 Placed on file the Hall County Treasurer's Miscellaneous Receipts
15. 23 Placed on file communications as received

Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Held a board of equalization meeting 9:05 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Chairman Jeffries called for public participation and no one responded.

2 COUNTY ATTORNEY – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING DETENTION CELLS IN WESTROAD ESTATES - Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham was present and stated that the county received a letter from the estate of Clarence Shuda and there are two tracts of land that are detention cells that the estate would like to deed to the county. Michelle stated that she checked with Casey Sherlock and Darrell Johnson and they stated that the County has been maintaining these tracts and the tracts will continue to be used as detention cells so the county should own them. The attorney for the estate would like to deed them to the county for a dollar if the county wants to accept them. If the property were annexed by the City in the future the property would be deeded to the City.

Lancaster made a motion and Wagoner seconded to accept the property from the Estate of Clarence Shuda. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

8 DISCUSS AND APPROVE APPOINTMENT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT COLOCATION COMMITTEE – Stacey Ruzicka stated that as a result of the interlocal agreement that was signed for the new law enforcement center it requires the establishment of the “Law Enforcement Co-Location Committee” that will be responsible for advising the cooperative undertaking of the combined services. It will consist of 6 members 1 from the Hall County Board, 1 from the City Council, the Hall County Sheriff, The Grand Island Chief of Police and one citizen at large to be appointed by the Mayor and one citizen at large to be appointed by the Chairman of the Hall County Board.

The committee shall be advisory in nature and shall have the responsibility to make recommendations to the governing bodies of the City and County regarding policies for use of the shared facility.

Jeffries appointed Bob Rye as the County Board representative and Roy Niemen as the citizen at large representative.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to approve the appointment of Bob Rye and Roy Niemen. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

11. DISCUSS AND APPROVE FACILITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR LOCATION OF ENCLOSED WALKWAY BETWEEN COURTHOUSE AND COURTHOUSE ANNEX – Lancaster stated that the committee has met and discussed the options to connect the courthouse and the courthouse annex. They are proposing to move the Clerk of the District Court to the annex and that is being done with the blessing of the judges as long as there is a passage way to move easily back and forth by connecting the buildings.

Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to accept the recommendation of the committee to connect the southwest entrance of the courthouse to the front door of the courthouse annex.

This was not a unanimous recommendation from the committee. There is even public discussion regarding this proposal.

Arnold stated that there is a vault in County Court that could be made into an entrance by connecting the buildings on the backside and going through the old jail but that would be a long walk and there are some security issues. Lancaster stated that she talked to the Sheriff and he could provide the security

Eriksen stated that in general he agrees for the need for the passage way but objects that it is too early in the game to select a route. He would like to address the hall space that currently divides county court and consider if there would be a way to convert this to office space. He would like to have the architect take a look at all of the options and include estimates of costs and bring all of this back to the County Board for more discussion.

Arnold noted that the most of the committee thought this would be the best solution for the long term. Rye also noted that it is important to look at the long term picture but he has not looked at any of the other options.

Eriksen stated that he thinks they need more information and would like to come back in two weeks.

Jeffries asked the board if they wanted to postpone this for another two weeks.

Wagoner also stated that he would like to see some cost figures on the proposed options and he questioned if there would be other safety issues on the passage way. Arnold stated that safety is one reason that he support the separate passage way.

Victor Aufdemberge was present and stated that he has a drawing for the committee and noted that it is important to consider the route that has the best option for comfort and security. They need to address the Clerk of the District Court filing and office space as well as the safety issues for their office. He noted that the south entrance would be more prominent to the public eye and would need to be built for the long term. There would be some issues using the back entrance to connect the building because there would have to be steps instead of ramps.

Lancaster stated that the cost for the south entrance would be about \$200,000.00 and the entrance on the back of the courthouse would be \$130,000.00

Eriksen stated that he would like to look at the additional information and come back in two weeks.

The vote on the motion to approve the southwest entrance was taken. Arnold, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and Eriksen and Wagoner voted no. Motion carried.

12 DISCUSS AND APPROVE CONTRACT WITH VICTOR AUFDEMBERGE
ARCHITECTURE FOR RENOVATION OF THE HALL COUNTY COURTHOUSE FOR
NEW COURT ROOM, NEW PASSAGEWAY BETWEEN THE COURT HOUSE AND
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, AND HOURLY RATES FOR AS NEEDED SERVICES FOR

COURTHOUSE OR COURTHOUSE ANNEX REMODELING - Lancaster noted that this contract does not address a total cost but the intent is to accomplish the completion of the project and the board needs to know the exposure. Michelle Oldham has reviewed the contract and it is a standard AIA contract it established the standard percentages for the cost of drawings and contract documents but the board needs to be able to make a final decision regarding the costs. The contract is set up in phases so the cost can be addressed.

Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to approve the contract with Victor Aufdenberge and move forward with the project. There are also hourly rates established because the county may be able to do some of the work but will need to use his professional services.

Arnold stated that this contract is for the entire project. Michelle Oldham pointed out that the county can stop at any point during the renovation if needed.

The vote on the motion to approve the contract was taken. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

15 DISCUSS AND APPROVE PURCHASE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT USED FURNITURE – Lancaster reported that the county had an opportunity to buy some of the furniture that was not going to be moved to the new safety center and the committee questioned if some of it could be used by other county offices. The Clerk of the District Court could use some and the Kathy Baasch Register of Deeds could use one of the executive office suites. There were also 4 metal office suites that could be used. The total cost of this furniture was \$3,145.00.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to purchase the used office equipment. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

16 CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – DISCUSS AND APPROVE RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR SEPARATE BUDGET FOR JUVENILE ATTENTION CENTER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 – Rye stated that the committee met with Sheriff Watson and Chief Deputy Chris Rea and they recommended approving this budget.

Rye made a motion and Eriksen seconded to approve Resolution #08-009 a Resolution providing for a separate budget for a Juvenile Attention Center for Fiscal Year 2007 2008.

Wagoner stated that he would like to see an interlocal agreement with the City of Grand Island to share part of the costs.

Lancaster stated that she supports establishing the extra budget but has concern on the costs and would like the committee to work with the city. There are some costs to remodel the space and there will be some administration costs and these costs will not be all county costs.

Eriksen stated that at this time they do not know what all of the cost will be but setting up a budget now will allow them to have a better idea of the total cost.

Arnold stated that it is important to get this set up and run the costs through this budget. Wagoner also suggested finding other funding sources.

Rye stated that it is the committee's intention to meet with the city to discuss this.

The vote on the motion was taken. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

17 DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON LEGISLATIVE BILLS – Lancaster stated that the priority bills will be selected by February 25th and questioned if the board members would like to address any of the bills.

Eriksen stated that he would like to take a stand on some of the bills but would like to wait until they are prioritized because a lot of these bills may never be addressed.

Lancaster stated that she would like to address LB 963 that requires showing proof of legal entrance into the United States in order to receive public assistance. The Governor asked that this bill be brought forward and she would like to see the County Board support this.

Lancaster made a motion and Eriksen seconded to support LB963. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and Jeffries and Wagoner abstained. Motion carried.

18 DISCUSSION AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS GENERAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES – Jeffries stated that he has asked Michelle Oldham to check with Health and Human Service to determine the counties responsibilities and bring this back to the county board then he will give it to an existing committee or appoint a committee to address this.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS – Arnold – He stated that he would like to address the legislative bills and send a letter to Senator Aguilar supporting the jail reimbursement bill.

Eriksen stated that he would like to address LB 793 and LB 1007

LB793 – Arnold noted that NACO support this bill but Michelle Oldham stated that this could actually hurt Hall County. This bill needs to be watched.

LB 1007 this bill would change the law regarding restricted funds and levy limits and it includes Hall County's allowable growth issue. Discussion was held.

Lancaster made a motion and Wagoner seconded that on the legislative bills that the county chooses to support to send the information to all 93 county clerks. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

LB 881 addresses imposing a 3 cent excise tax on the production of ethanol to increase funding for roads. Discussion was held and the board did not support this.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to send a letter of support for LB1007. Arnold, Eriksen, Humiston, Lancaster, Rye and Wagoner all voted yes and Jeffries voted no. Motion carried.

Wagoner reported that the public works committee met and reviewed the 1 & 6 Road Program and the public hearing will be at the next meeting.

Eriksen reported that at the Region 3 meeting they voted to change the formula regarding the county match. There were two different methods to calculate county match and now it will be based on population. The state has not increased their contribution but the counties will be asked for an increase. They will know what the county match will be after the next meeting.

Jeffries stated that they had a correction department progress meeting two weeks ago and walked through the facility yesterday. He also attended the joint City County meeting and toured the new safety center.

Lancaster stated that she also attended the joint meeting with the city and toured the new facility.

NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Chairman Jeffries called for new or unfinished business. The old safety center signage will be removed and the courthouse annex signage will be added.

Meeting adjourned by 10:55 a.m. the next meeting will be February 19, 2008.

Marla J. Conley Hall County Clerk